Mr. President: Yes, the point is clear.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): That, Sir, may be considered later. If there are any non-controversial item, that may be moved in the interim.

Mr. President: It may be moved later.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): Sir, there are many others of that type also.

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar.(*Prime Minister*): That may be moved next time.

Mr. President: Then we shall pass on to the next item.

(7) "32—Public Works—by transfer from—B. I. 43/23"

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): I move that a sum of Rs. 5,935 under "32-Public Works" by transfer from "BI. 43/23" may be granted to Government.

It is necessary to put up parapet walls in dangerous places on the Nelliampathi Ghat Road. The estimated cost of the work is Rs. 1,290 and calculating a tender excess of 400% the ultimate cost will come to about Rs. 6,450. The work is urgent and it has to be carried out this year itself. Since there is no provison for the work in the current year's budget, the expenditure is proposed to be met by reappropriation. There is a provision of Rs. 16,275 under B. I. 43/23 (Metalling Vellatanjur Road). Savings to the extent of Rs. 5,935 is expected under the item and this amount is proposed to be utilised for the work in question.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): On this also, Sir, I would like to speak a few words. Unfortunately it happens to be a road in my Constituency which I had had to travel often. The metalling of the Vellatanjur road is budget item No. 43/23. That is a caterpillar-ridden road which has to be metalled and the cost had been provided in this year's budget. May I know whether it has been metalled already, Sir?

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): Whether it has been completed, I am not sure. But the work must have been started. Otherwise savings could not be expected.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): Can it be assured that the road will be completely metalled before the end of 1123? Surmises are not sufficient.

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): No definite assurance can be given. It is stated in the note that savings to the extent of Rs. 5,935 can be expected. Savings can be expected only after the work is completed.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): Is there any assurance that the Vellatanjur road will be metalled before the year 1123 is out? Because we have sanctioned a certain amount for a particular piece of work which has been neglected, I want to know whether that amount is going to be shifted to another neglecting the original work or is it saving after completing the original work. Otherwise not a pie can be taken, whether the necessity of Nelliampathy is more important or not.

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): No definite assurance can be given.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): I know, Sir, as a matter of fact three days back it has not been metalled. I traversed that road.

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): I cannot definitely say whether the work has been completed just now.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): The work has not even been started, Sir, that is the real position.

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): The work is entrusted on contract. If the Hon'ble Member wants to know whether the work has been started, how can I say just at present.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): It is a very simple process. If you want the money to be transferred you have to prove the justice of the process.

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): I plead my helplessness.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): A sum of Rs. 16,275 has been provided for metalling a particular road which has never been metalled before. Now I want to know whether it is going to be metalled or not, or that money is going to be mis-used or transferred for other things. Is it anything too much on my part to make the enquiry?

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Mr. President: The Hon'ble Member wants an assurance and in view of what is stated by the Government, if the Hon'ble Member is not satisfied, let him proceed.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): I can be satisfied with an assurance from the Government and the Government is unable to give the promise.

Mr. President: How can Goverment give the assurance—Suppose the contractor fails.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): I feel sorry and sympathise with the Government.

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar *(Prime Minister):* Efforts are being made for carrying out the work entrusted to the contractor. Then the contracor is to carry on with it.

Mr. M. K. Raja *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May we have an assurance from the Government that the amount which has been allotted for this particular work will not lapse through the default of the Government or of their agents ?

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar *(Prime Minister):* Surely that is what I said.

Mr. M. K. Raja *(Mullakunnathukvu):* But will the Government come to us afterwards and say that the contractor has failed and could not carry out the work ?

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar *(Prime Minister):* It may happen. But I don't expect any such contingency especially in the case of the Vellatanjur road. I can't give a categorical statement.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nomiated):* Government will endeavour their best.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Yes. I am not concerned about the colour of the contractor, or his capacity Sir, I am concerned with the execution of the work of metalling the Vellatanjur road—a road of two miles and a few furlongs—neglected for a long number of years, leading to a thickly populated village, Vellatanjur in my constituency, branching off from the Veloor Road at mile three.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* At mile 4 !

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I am obliged to the responsible leader of the opposition for the correction which happens to be correct one in the way. Thank you, Sir. Now I want a very modest assurance; my request is that I want a categorical statement from the responsible Prime Minister of Cochin in charge of the Public Works Department that this road shall be metalled before a particular date. I was prepared to give him the last day of the year. That assurance is not forthcoming, and since a reference even to the failure of the contractor has been raised, I have no option but to oppose this demand in the absence of that categorical assurace coming forth; because Sir, providing for an expenditure of 40 or 50 lakhs of rupees in the Public Works Budget, the experience shows that the lapses have been to the tune of 50% in spite of the fact that as many as half a dozen and more of Executive Engineers sufficently large to be posted as mile-stones along the Shoranur-Anjal Road are functioning in the State. In spite of that the work is not being executed. Is it too much, Sir, in this context for me to ask for an assurance from a popular ministry. No. Is it too much, Sir, is this demand anything other than modest and the failure on the part of the Government—the Prime Minister helped by his colleagues—to give me a categorical assurance upon this simple question that this road will be finished by the end of this year, is something which words beg me to describe. It is not a long road. This Shoranur-Anjal road was taken up 5 years back and neglected. But this one is a small road of 2½ miles. Is it so difficult, Sir, to give this simple assurance upon this small proposition ? If it is not forthcoming, I would be failing in my duty to the people who have sent me here if I nod to the transfer. I oppose this demand because of the want of response from the ministry as also from the self-styled of responsible Opposition. Let that be known by the public. Let your irresponsibility be noted by the public. That is the point of my opposition and I want that road be metalled before the election sets in.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Nellayi):* On a point of information, Sir. May I know what is the estimate for this road of 2 miles ?

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): I want notice. I have the file only with regard to this parapet construction.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Nellayi*): I would like to know how you arrived at the figure Rs. 5,935?

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): From the Chief Engineer's report.

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Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Nellayi*): That is with the reduction in the tendered estimate.

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): Yes.

Mr. President: The question is that a sum of Rs. 5,935 under "32-Public Works" be granted to Government by transfer from "B. I. 43/23."

Demand put and carried.

(8) 32-Public Works by transfer from B. 1. 46/22

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): Sir, I move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1,400 under "32-Public Works" by transfer from "B. I. 46/22."

The Offices of the Reforms Commissioner and the Constitutional Adviser are held in the verandas of the Darbar Hall upstairs. It was reported that great difficulty was being experienced for want of sufficient breeze in their offices. Ceiling fans had therefore to be fitted up urgently. The expenditure on this account came to Rs. 1,400. This is proposed to be met from the savings under B. I. 46/22.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): Sir, I want some information. Is the Reforms Commissioner functioning now?

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): Sir, Is any more fan necessary for an officer who is not functioning? I should like to know that.

Rao Sahib C. J. Mathew (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That office was shifted from there.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): I want some information about the Constitutional Adviser's office.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ഗോവിന്ദമേനോൻ: ഇതു് ഫർണിച്ചർ കഴിഞ്ഞതാണു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴുത്തശ്ശൻ: ചിലവാക്കിയ പണത്തിന്നാണോ ഇതിപ്പോൾ അനുവദിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ഗോവിന്ദമേനോൻ: അതു് ഇതിൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴുത്തശ്ശൻ: കൊല്ലം നോക്കാതെയല്ല ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. മുമ്പു ചിലവാക്കിയ സംഖ്യക്കു് വേണ്ടിയല്ലെ ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ സംഖ്യ അനുവദിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു്? കോൺസ്ട്രക്ഷൻ അഡൈസറുടെ ആഫീസ്സു് ഇപ്പോഴും ഡർബാർഹാൾ വരാന്തയിൽ തന്നെയാണോ?

റാവുസാഹിബ്ബു് സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: അതിപ്പോൾ രാംമോഹൻ പാലസ്സിലാണു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴുത്തശ്ശൻ: അതിപ്പോൾ അവിടെനിന്നും മാറ്റിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നാണു് എന്റെ അറിവു്.

Rao Sahib C. J. Mathew (*Chief Secratary to Government*): He asked for a fan and was given.

Demand put and carried

(9) 32-Public Works (1122) by transfer from B. I. 46/22

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar (*Prime Minister*): I move for an additional allotment of Rs. 370 under "32-Public Works" (1122) by transfer from "B. I. 46/22". The ceiling fan fitted in the Legal Remembrancer's room in the new building attached to the Secretariat had to be refitted at a lower level. A new ceiling fan had to be fitted in the room of the Assistant Secretary, Law Department and also a table fan had to be provided for the use of the Assistant Legal Remembrancer. Since the work had to be executed urgently, an expenditure of Rs. 370 was incurred in 1122. This is proposed to be met by transfer from the savings under B. I. 46/22—Mechanical Engineering.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): I would like to know, Sir, from the Finance Secretary whether this process mentioned here is regular or irregular? It is stated that Rs. 370 under pressure of the urgency of the expenditure was incurred in 1122. In the 7th month of 1123 the supplementary demand is asked. Is it regular?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon (*Accountant-General*): It was irregular, but we want to regularise it by the House.

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